

SPORTS & LEISURE

Not-so-special effort for Bulldogs in opener

Special teams turned out to be the downfall of the Halton Hills Bulldogs as their playoff series with the Newmarket Saints began Saturday night in Georgetown with all of the intensity expected from the budding rivals.

The Saints came back from a 4-1 first-period deficit to prevail 10-8 in game one of their best-of-5 Ontario Lacrosse Association Jr. B Eastern Conference semifinal series at the Alcott Arena in front of close to 500 spectators.

Game two of the series is set for Newmarket's Ray Twinney Complex Friday at 8 p.m., with game three Saturday in Georgetown at 7:30 p.m.

After being eliminated by the Bulldogs the previous two seasons, the fourth-ranked Saints outshot the home side 47-38 Saturday, scoring twice shorthanded, three more times on the power play and another key goal came in the third period with an extra attacker as the rallying Bulldogs were about to be assessed a penalty.

During five-on-five play, the Dogs outscored the visitors 5-4 on the evening.

Newmarket also struck for goals in the final minute of the first and second periods to further frustrate the conference's second seed.

With the teams tied 6-6 heading into the final frame, the Saints took advantage of a series of undisciplined Halton Hills penalties to score three times in the opening four minutes to take the lead for good.

Despite spending much of the first half of the third period down two men, the Bulldogs cut Newmarket's lead to 9-8 midway through the stanza, but Saints' goalkeeper Adam Miles allowed just four goals through the final 40 minutes.

Shane Scott (2), Brendan MacDonald (2), Brad Kri, Dylan Gilbert, Justin Reid and Ethan O'Connor tallied for the Bulldogs.

In the other Eastern Conference semifinal, the top-seeded Green Gaels of Clarington were upset at home 11-9 Sunday by the Kahnawake Hunters after winning the series opener 18-4, with the series now shifting to Quebec for the next three games.



Ethan O'Connor of the Halton Hills Bulldogs scores on a breakaway during the first period in an Ontario Lacrosse Association playoff matchup Saturday in Georgetown against the Newmarket Saints. The Saints rallied from a three-goal deficit to beat the Bulldogs 10-8 and they hold a 1-0 lead in the best-of-5 OLA Eastern Conference Jr. B semifinal series. Game two of the series will take place Friday night in Newmarket, with game three back here Saturday at the Alcott Arena at 7:30 p.m.

Photo by Eamonn Maher

Personal bests for Driedger at nationals

Georgetown's Emily Driedger raced to a couple of top-10 finishes at the Canadian Junior Track & Field Championships in Moncton, N.B. earlier this month in the 1,500m and 3,000m events. The 18-year-old Georgetown District High School graduate ran a personal-best time of 4:34.65 in the preliminary heat for the 1,500m race, placing fourth to qualify for the final, in which she finished ninth in 4:38.64. Driedger also had her best-ever clocking in the 3,000m final in Moncton, taking fifth in 10:00.59. The Guelph-based Speed River Track Club member will attend the University of Guelph starting in September.

Submitted photo



EMILY DRIEDGER

Spencer 8th at GAO juvenile tourney

Samantha Spencer of Georgetown South finished eighth in the juvenile girls' division at the Golf Association of Ontario's Girls' Championships over three rounds played at the Rivendell Golf Club near Kingston last week.

The 14-year-old Spencer recorded rounds of 83-76-83 that also placed her 22nd in the junior category amongst about 80 entrants.

A member of The Club at North Halton, Spencer is headed off to tournaments in Indiana and Illinois this month and will compete for the first time in the Canadian Junior Women's Championships near Sarnia Aug. 3-6.

Georgetown's Candice Swartz, who has earned a scholarship to Cameron University in Oklahoma this fall, turned in scores of 88-86-85 at the GAO junior tourney to tie for 39th.

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Thirteen-year-old Callum Biehn of Georgetown shot a three-over-par 73 to nose out two other players by a stroke for top spot at a recent Canadian Junior Golf Association tourney at the Deer Run course.

Biehn won the 11-13 boys' division at the Junior CJGA Linkster Series event held in Kawartha Lakes.

Hill makes Jays' debut

Shawn Hill of Georgetown made his first start in the Toronto Blue Jays' organization last Thursday as he continues to rehabilitate his right throw-

ing arm after major elbow surgery last year. Hill gave up one run over five innings and struck out five for the single-A Gulf Coast Jays.

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